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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 JMB-10 NSAE-00
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
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EA/K PLEAS INFO ICA/EA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: KS, US
SUBJ: REPORTED WITHDRAWAL OF US NUCLEAR WEAPONS FROM KOREA

1. ALL PAPERS AFTERNOON OF 8/21 AND MORNING OF 8/22 PROMINENTLY CARRIED ORIENT PRESS STORY FROM WASHINGTON THAT US WITHDRAWAL PLAN WILL INCLUDE THE WITHDRAWAL OF US NUCLEAR WEAPONS FROM KOREA. THE STORY WAS SUPPOSEDLY BASED ON A SECRET REPORT BY THE PRESIDENT TO CONGRESS WHICH SAYS THAT ARMY TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS WILL BE REMOVED IN THE FIRST PHASE OF WITHDRAWAL THIS YEAR AND AIR FORCE TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS WILL FOLLOW IN THE SECOND PHASE NEXT YEAR. THE STORY NOTED THAT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THE SUBJECT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS WITHDRAWAL HAS COME UP PUBLICLY. FORMER UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE HABIB AND FORMER JCS CHAIRMAN BROWN SUPPOSEDLY TESTIFIED IN SECRET HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE SECRET HEARINGS LAST SPRING THAT ALL NUCLEAR WEAPONS WOULD BE WITHDRAWN. THE OP REPORT ALSO MENTIONED THE PROMISE AT THE RECENT SCM THAT KOREA IS PROTECTED BY THE AMERICAN NUCLEAR UMBRELLA.

2. THE TONGA ILBO CARRIED A COMMENTARY WHICH, WHILE
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LISTING THE REASONS THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION MIGHT

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OFFER FOR SUCH WITHDRAWAL, SAID THAT THE ABSENCE OF AMERICAN NUCLEAR WEAPONS WILL CAUSE BOTH SOUTH AND NORTH KOREA TO RECONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT. OTHER PAPERS DID NOT CARRY EDITORIALS AND THE STORY WAS NOT REPEATED IN THE 8/22 AFTERNOON PAPERS.
OLEYSTEEN

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